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3 September 1953

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CURRENT INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

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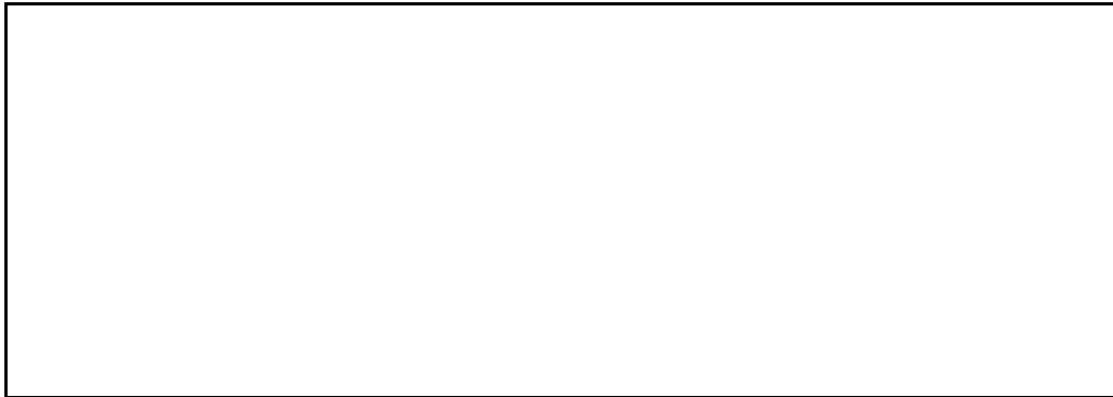
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Office of Current Intelligence

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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DIA and DOS review(s) completed.

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S U M M A R Y

25X1

SOUTHEAST ASIA

- ✓2. Taipei seen hindering evacuation of troops from Burma (page 3).

SOUTH ASIA

3. Afghanistan may be willing to cease Pushtoonistan campaign (page 4).

NEAR EAST - AFRICA

25X1

- ✓5. Zahedi states requirements for friendly Soviet-Iranian relations (page 5).

EASTERN EUROPE

25X1

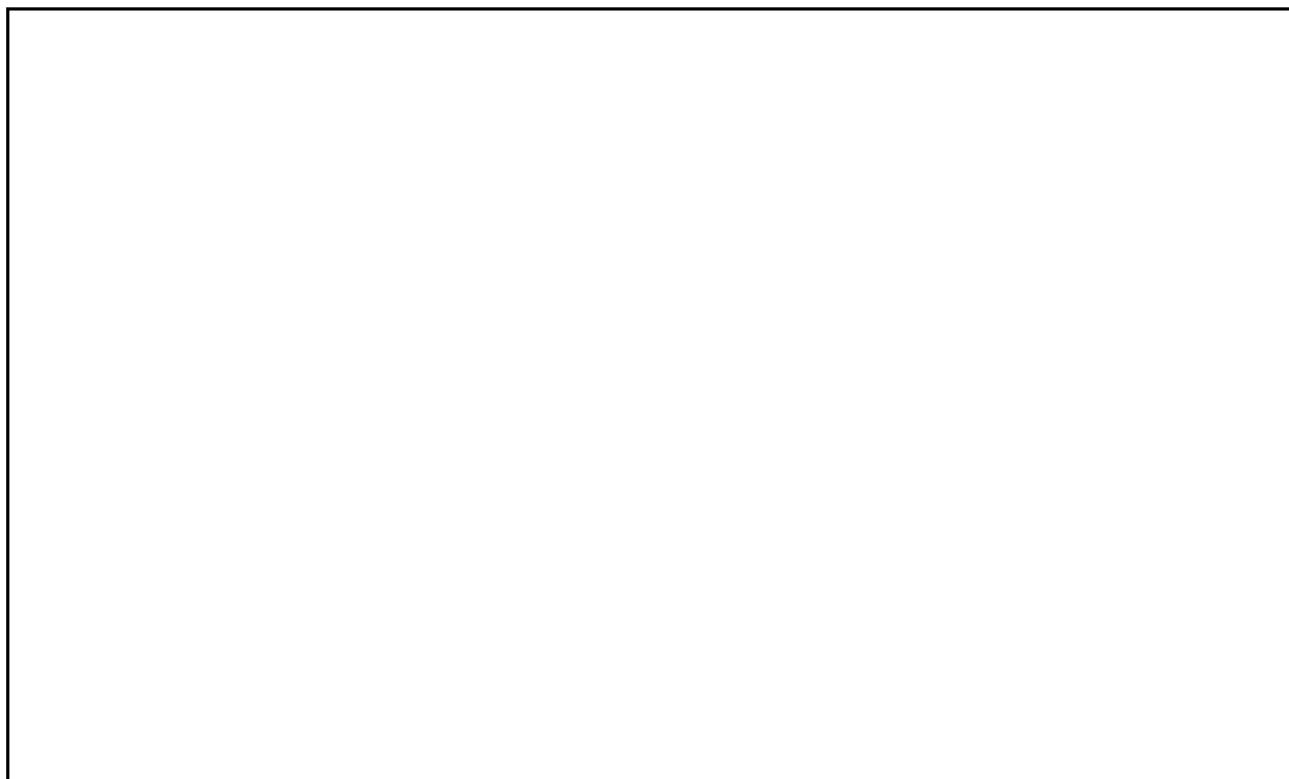
- ✓7. Yugoslavia believed ready to abandon all previous proposals for Trieste settlement (page 6).

WESTERN EUROPE

8. Reports of Italian troop movements toward Trieste held erroneous (page 7).

25X1A

25X1



SOUTHEAST ASIA

2. Taipei seen hindering evacuation of troops from Burma:

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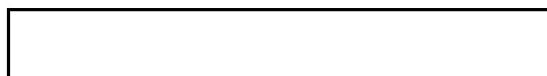
The Chinese Nationalist representative to the four-power committee in Bangkok has proposed deleting from the evacuation plan now under consideration the names of places in Burma to be turned over to the Burmese army.

The American embassy in Bangkok comments that this development appears to implicate the Nationalist government in a maneuver to stall or scuttle the evacuation effort, since its representative admittedly acted on specific instructions. The embassy further states that this move also lends credence to reports [redacted] that General Li Mi intends to retain his Mong Hsat headquarters and that Taipei plans only a token evacuation.

25X1

- 3 -

25X1A



3 Sept 53

25X1A

Comment: This report is consistent with other indications of Nationalist intentions to remain in Burma and is contrary to recent press reports that implementation of an agreed evacuation plan is imminent. It also contradicts the Nationalist position that Li Mi alone is responsible for obstructing the evacuation.

SOUTH ASIA

3. Afghanistan may be willing to cease Pushtoonistan campaign:

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The Afghan government allegedly is willing to cease further agitation for an independent Pushtoonistan and to recognize the disputed Pushtoon tribal area between Afghanistan and Pakistan as belonging officially to the latter,

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Afghan willingness, however, is contingent upon finding a face-saving formula, such as giving the tribal territory a separate name.

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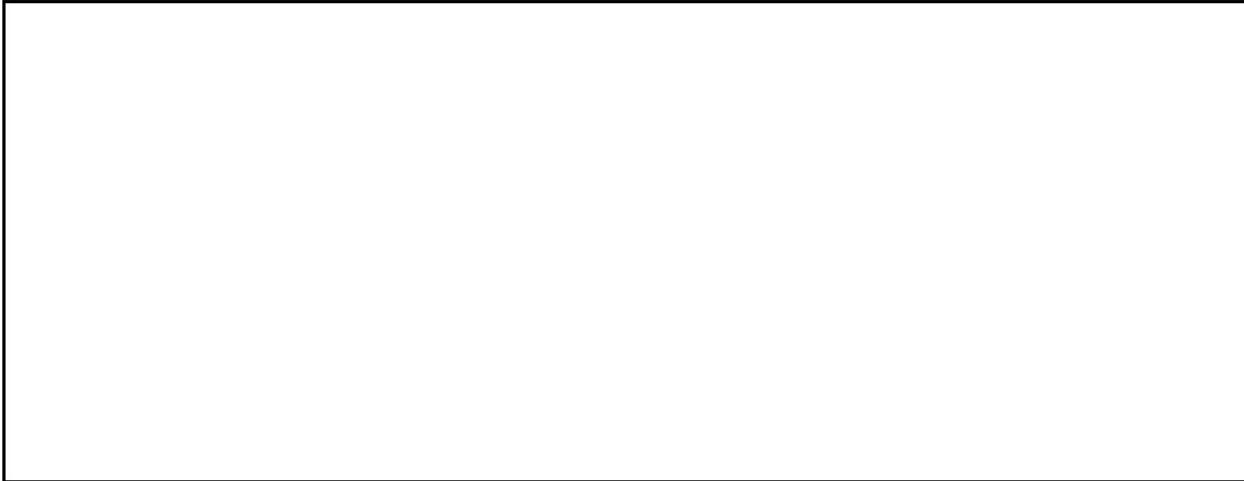
Comment: These new suggestions for ending the most important dispute between Afghanistan and Pakistan represent a retreat from the usual Afghan position demanding public Pakistani recognition that a problem exists and insisting that the tribal area should be made independent.

It may also be significant that in August the only independent Afghan paper, in which the Afghan prime minister reportedly is interested, ceased printing Pushtoonistan propaganda, which usually constitutes the bulk of Afghan news.

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5. Zahedi states requirements for friendly Soviet-Iranian relations:

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[Redacted] On 31 August Prime Minister Zahedi told Ambassador Henderson that, in reply to an inquiry from the Soviet embassy, he had stated that Iran wishes to maintain normal and friendly relations with the Soviet Union. Such relations would be possible only if the USSR refrained from interfering in Iranian internal affairs, particularly from giving material and moral support to the Tudeh and other subversive organizations. He added that the USSR must treat Iran as an equal and that relations between the two countries must be maintained on a basis of mutual advantage.

Comment: The fact that Zahedi informed the American embassy promptly and in such detail regarding his intentions is a good indication of his desire to cooperate with the United States.

25X1



3 Sept 53

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7. Yugoslavia believed ready to abandon all previous proposals for Trieste settlement:

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[redacted] On the basis of talks with Yugoslav undersecretary for foreign affairs Bebler on 31 August, the American, British, and French chiefs of mission in Belgrade agree

that Yugoslavia intends to abandon its previous proposals for a solution of the Trieste problem and to demand the return of the entire Free Territory with the possible exception of the city of Trieste. Yugoslavia's intention would be to offset the official Italian position calling for a return of the entire territory to Italy.

The three Western diplomats believe that Yugoslavia actually wants a Trieste settlement through some form of internationalization of the territory with heavy guarantees for the rights of the Slovene population. In the talks, Bebler stated that earlier Yugoslav proposals for a condominium would have to be revised, implying that this idea had not yet been wholly rejected by Belgrade.

- 6 -

25X1A

[redacted]
3 Sept 53

Comment: In his 30 August conversation with the American charge, Bebler indicated that in his 6 September speech Tito will attack the Allied Military Government policy in Trieste "which was permitting the Italianization of the zone," will give assurances that Yugoslavia intends to remain calm and adopt no adventurous and unilateral measures, and will offer a new proposal for the settlement of the Trieste question.

WESTERN EUROPE

8. Reports of Italian troop movements toward Trieste held erroneous:

25X1A

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[redacted] [redacted] on 1 September told the American army attache in Rome that there had been no movement of Italian troops in connection with the Trieste dispute. He added that press observers had probably been misled by the movement of units returning to their barracks after summer maneuvers.

Comment: This report suggests that Prime Minister Pella was bluffing when he told an American embassy official on 31 August that one Italian regiment was being dispatched to Monfalcone, on the Gulf of Trieste.

25X1A

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